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lobes. The superior portion of the first *gyrus occipitalis* sunken, with incomplete development of the *tuberculum occipitale*. Cuneus, small. Corpus callosum, dwarfed.

3. The main deviations from the normal here were: Forebrain very small; great simplification of the convolutions. Exposure of a portion of the island of Reil. Union of the right central fissure with fissure of Sylvius; complete separation of the anterior central convolution on the right side from the horizontal frontal convolutions by an abnormally developed precentral sulcus. Occipital convolutions small and abnormally formed. Presence of an *operculum occipitale*. Abnormal formation of the parieto-occipital fissure, especially on the right side. Shortening of the corpus callosum caudad. Five good plates accompany the text.

Variations of the spinal nerves in the caudal region of the domestic Pigeon.
JAMES I. PECK. Jour. of Morphology, Vol. III, No. 1. June, 1889.
1 Plate.

The author first determined that the variable number of caudal vertebræ was not altogether explained by union of one or more with the coccyx, for if this had been the case an inverse relation was to be expected between the length of the coccyx and the number of caudal vertebræ. It was, however, found that the coccyx was longer in those specimens having many than in those having few free caudal vertebræ, and although the relation of the most caudal one of the latter to the coccyx varied, being more or less ankylosed with it, yet the variations in this part of the skeleton are thus shown to be more than relative. Specimens were examined by direct dissection and by sections—dove-cote and fantail pigeons being employed. In various specimens from 5 to 8 free caudal vertebræ were found. This gave from 6 to 9 spaces for the emergence of nerves. In general the number of nerves was equal to the number of spaces minus 2, but it was sometimes equal to the number of spaces minus one. In one case, also, the most caudal nerve was present apparently on one side only. Caudad, at the point where the nerves arise, the cord is continued as a flum terminale, the arrangement of the nerves preventing anything like a cauda equina. The conclusion is that the nervous system in this region is plastic, and varies in association with the number of caudal vertebræ.

Anatomischer Befund bei einseitigem Fehlen des Kniephänomens. A. PICK.
Archiv f. Psychiatrie und Nervenkrankheiten. Bd. XX. H. 3, 1889.

The spinal cord examined in this case was from a man of 60 years dying of pleuro-pneumonia while under treatment for tabes and dementia paralytica. In the fresh cord there was makroscopically nothing abnormal. When hardened in bichromate of potash the posterior columns were plainly seen to be degenerated through the entire length of the cord. The maximum disturbance was about the juncture of the dorsal with the lumbar regions. Here, as in the other regions, the left side was more involved than the right, and specially the root zone of the left side was more degenerated than that of the right, though there was some degeneration on the right side also. The knee jerk on the left side was absent in the patient, and on the right could be obtained with re-enforcement only. Westphal had already associated the loss of the knee-jerk with disease of the root zone (*Wurzeleintrittzone*) at the level of union between dorsal and lumbar regions; and this case is presented as confirmatory of his results. It will be observed that the localization is of a lesion in a tract of fibers and not of a cell group.

Histologische Untersuchungen am Rückenmark der Tritonen. K. R. BURCKHARDT. Archiv f. mikros. Anatomie. Bd. 34. H. 1, 1889.

Triton Alpestris was the form mainly used in this study, and one principle object which the author had in mind was to determine whether the development of the spinal cord took place in a manner similar to that described by His for man. The conclusions support those of His. The mitoses which give rise to the spongioblasts of these authors take place earlier than those which form the neuroblasts—the first form of nerve cells. The supporting substance of the cord is essentially epidermal, therefore, though, in the adult, cells of a different nature may be found imbedded in it. The ganglion cells are of several sizes, and it is the largest ones that develop earliest. Structures which have been described as “granules” and “free nuclei” are, in some cases at least, small ganglion cells. Triton also shows large nerve cells which are the homologues of the “posterior cells” (Freud) in *Petromyzon*. The plates that accompany the paper show several cross sections of the cord, and it is remarkable how closely the early stages resemble the developing cord in man.

Ueber den oberen Kern des Nervus oculomotorius. Dr. L. DARKSCHEWITSCH. Arch. f. Anat. u. Entwicklungsgesch. January, 1889. H. I. and II. Taf. I.

By the study of cross-sections from the region of the anterior corpora quadrigemina in the human fœtus, between the seventh and eighth months, Darkschewitsch makes out a group of cells to which he gives the name superior nucleus of the oculomotorius. The following is taken from his description: There are in this region two columns of cells on each side, their long axis parallel to the aquæduct. The more ventral and caudal group lies nearer the middle line, the more dorsal and cephalic one being laterad of it. The latter group has much smaller cells than the former. In their relations to the oculomotor nerve fibers and the posterior longitudinal bundle, both groups are alike. It is this dorsal and cephalic group, composed of the small cells, which is the “superior nucleus” of our author. For its relations, see the original paper. (Gudden has already described the several cell clusters which form the oculo-motor nucleus in the rabbit, and it may be that a study of this superior nucleus in the adult human brain will make it possible to homologize the subdivisions in man and the rabbit. In the meantime it must be remembered that this “superior nucleus” is classed with the oculo-motor centre solely on the ground of juxtaposition and its relation to the posterior longitudinal bundle and the oculo-motor nerve.—REV.)

Multiple Hirnnervenlähmung nach Basisfractur. Ein Beitrag zur Frage des Verlaufs der Geschmacksnerven. L. BRUNS. Archiv f. Psychiatrie, u. Nervenkrankheiten, Bd. XX, H. 2, 1889.

The patient was a man who had been thrown from a wagon violently on his head; several cranial nerves (from II–VII inclusive) were injured by what was diagnosed as fracture of the basis of the skull. The careful examination showed that in general there existed on the right side, on which there was total paralysis of the facialis, a complete hemiageusia, both at the tip and back of tongue and soft palate, while on the left side, on which the trigeminus was completely paralyzed sensibility to taste was everywhere retained. There was no evidence that the glosso-pharyngeus was injured other than was furnished by the loss of taste. It was further surmised that the trigeminal lesion was intracranial, while that of the facialis was in the Fallopian canal. If the hemiageusia had been confined to the anterior two-thirds of the tongue, the case would have fitted nicely with the theory of Carl, which makes the course of the taste fibers from the glosso-pharyngeus—where they arise—through the ganglion petrosum and by the tympanic nerve to the tympanic plexus, from here the main portion passes by the nervus